

WEST LAFAYETTE POLICE MERIT COMMISSION MINUTES
September 10, 2012

The West Lafayette Police Merit Commission met in regular session in the Lower Level Conference Room of City Hall on September 10, 2012 at 7:00 pm.

Commission President Corrigan called the meeting to order and presided.

PRESENT: Commissioners Corrigan, Troyer, Kirkpatrick, and Shafer.

ALSO PRESENT: Commission Attorney Brooks, Deputy Chief Leroux, Lt. John Watson, and Diane Foster.

ABSENT: Commissioner No

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commission President called for the approval of the minutes from the August Merit Commission Meeting. Deputy Chief Leroux asked that the minutes be amended. On Page 2, Number 5, it should read 60 points instead of 70 points. Commissioner Troyer moved to approve change and Commissioner Shafer seconded the motion. The change was made to the minutes. Commission President moved that the amended minutes be approved. All in favor per voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

The main order of business for the meeting was to discuss the changes from last meeting. Commission Attorney Brooks had a handout that the commission could look at and discuss. Commission Attorney Brooks was willing to discuss changes or to make changes to paperwork for review. Commission Attorney Brooks spoke of how to go about making the changes valid per the rules for the Merit Commission. Commission Attorney Brooks discussed A2. After discussion, if they (applicant) failed to complete the application properly, the applicant would be out of the process, and the Police Department has made a new checklist in regard to everything that is to be included in the application. Commission President asked Diane Foster if she was the one that would reject the applicant if paperwork was not complete, her response was yes, and there would be a letter sent in a timely manner to the applicant. Commission Attorney Brooks deleted the section that had the commission review the application, since we are doing full applications now. Commissioner Kirkpatrick had a question for Commission Attorney Brooks, in regard to the first page, under number 3, limitation, and also a question in regard to citizenship and where is that indicated on the application? Deputy Chief Leroux answered that question for her. Commission President Corrigan asked if page 2 was correct and Commission Attorney Brooks replied that with regard to

character, it was discussed last month and the change is correct in regard to "character". Commission President asked about page 3, and Commission Attorney Brooks replied that he changed some grammatical areas, and the changing to at least 75% in each category and an overall score of 85 as was discussed last month. Commissioner Kirkpatrick discussed if we would change the aptitude test would the scoring remain the same and Commissioner Troyer commented that the aptitude test would be a general aptitude test and scoring would not change. Brooks commented that he had concerns about the Police Board interviewing potential officers without having a background or polygraph and he had previously discussed this issue with Deputy Chief Leroux and learned that the Police Board doesn't need that information and doesn't use that information when making decisions, so that was one of the reasons the committee recommended that they rearrange the process of hiring. Background investigation to be completed by Police Board and they are going to assign up to 60 points, the commission will review that background and can either affirm or change that score. Commission Attorney Brooks discussed the change in the term "polygraph" and the change to "truth verification" test.

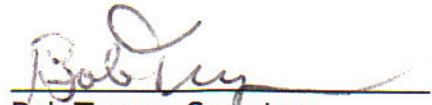
Diane Foster has questions in regard to the order of the polygraph test and the background check. Commissioner Kirkpatrick and Deputy Chief Leroux explained the reasons for the change. Diane Foster also raised the point of the deletion of the pre-application. The storage of a pre application is much less than the same number of full applications, and Commissioner Kirkpatrick explained that the committee's expectations are that when an applicant has to complete a full application that there are many less applications. Diane also questioned as to whether we need to continue to accept applications year round. It is her opinion that we should like to accept applications only in a specific time frame. Deputy Chief Leroux and Commission Attorney Brooks discussed that the change would be an operational issue. Lt. Watson explained the process of the hiring operation/testing and notification of applicants. The changes discussed will be finalized and posted as per Merit Commission Rules by Commission Attorney Brooks.

CHIEF'S REPORT:


Deputy Chief Leroux passed out the Chief's Report to all present. Deputy Chief discussed the fact that the students are back and that the calls for service were up 12%. The annual softball game between the West Lafayette Fire Department and the West Lafayette Police Department was held with the West Lafayette Police Department winning. Brandon Bonnell, the new hire, has a start date of September 17th, 2012, and he will be sworn in that day at 10:00 am in the court chambers. Deputy Chief Leroux asked Commissioner Shafer to take the pictures for that event. Commissioner Shafer agreed to do such.

Commissioner Troyer moved that the meeting be adjourned and Commissioner Kirkpatrick seconded it. It was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

The next meeting will be held on October 8th, 2012 at 7:00 pm.


Bob Troyer, Secretary

Attest:


Don Corrigan, President